

2007 Legislative Interim Studies

As Approved by the Legislative Council on June 13, 2007

A. Studies Mandated by Law and Permanent Committee

1. Legislative Property Tax Study Committee (2007 Iowa Acts, S.F. 601, § 127)

Charge: The Legislative Property Tax Study Committee is established for the 2007 and 2008 Legislative Interims to perform a comprehensive review of the property tax system.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House/9 nonvoting members appointed by leaders, including one who is engaged in economic development activities in the state/3 nonvoting executive branch agency members appointed by the Governor

Meeting Days: 3

2. Legislative Commission on Affordable Health Care Plans for Small Businesses and Families (2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 909, §§ 99,127, & 128)

Charge: The Commission is created by legislation to review, analyze, and make recommendations by December 2007 on a broad spectrum of issues relating to the affordability of health care for Iowans. The legislation creates a Health Care Data Research Advisory Council to assist the Commission with research, analysis, and other functions. The legislation appropriates \$500,000 for FY08 to the Legislative Services Agency to support the work of the Commission and Council. To accomplish its charge, the Commission is authorized to procure consultation and other support directly through the Advisory Council or through exclusive contracts with other entities able to perform in the short time frame provided for the study, subject to legislative expenditure guidelines. The Commission is authorized to expend moneys from the appropriation made in Code section 2.12 to pay the June expenses of Commission members and staff to attend the Commission's first meeting and a health care conference in Des Moines sponsored by the University of Iowa's College of Public Health, subject to all expenditure guidelines otherwise applicable to the Commission. Such expenditures may be offset by a reduction in the \$500,000 appropriation for FY08.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House/9 public members, as designated in legislation plus a representative of the Iowa Pharmacy Association, appointed by leaders/5 consumers appointed by Governor/ 3 agency directors or designees. Only agency directors or designees are nonvoting members, with final recommendations subject to approval by legislator members per interim committee study guidelines. The appointing authority for legislator members of each caucus may designate a legislator from the same caucus to act as an alternate to attend official meetings of the commission for an absent legislator member.

Meeting Days: 7 plus 3 public hearings

3. TIME-21 Transportation Funding Study Committee (2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 932 § 8)

Charge: Address the revenue needs of the Transportation Investment Moves the Economy in the Twenty-first Century (TIME-21) Fund created in 2007 Iowa Acts, H.F. 932, for funding of roads and highways.

Members: 4 Senate/4 House

Meeting Days: 2

4. Public Retirement Systems Committee (Iowa Code § 97D.4)

Charge: Review and evaluate all public retirement systems in place in Iowa, including the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System (IPERS), the Municipal Fire and Police Retirement System of Iowa (411), the Department of Public Safety Peace Officers' Retirement System (PORS), the Judicial Retirement System, and TIAA-CREF.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 3

B. Other Interim Studies

1. Criminal Code Reorganization Study Committee

Charge: Meet during the 2007 and 2008 Legislative Interims to consider proposals for Criminal Code revisions, reorganization, and updates.

Members: 3 Senate/3 House/8 Voting Public Members appointed by leaders to represent each of the following: Professor from University of Iowa College of Law, Professor from Drake University Law School, district court judge, Iowa Attorney General, State Public Defender, Iowa County Attorneys Association, Iowa Board of Parole, and Department of Corrections.

Meeting Days: 3

2. Sustainable Funding For Natural Resources

Charge: Study how best to provide for sustainable funding for natural resource needs. Cooperate with the members of the Sustainable Natural Resource Funding Advisory Committee established in 2006 Iowa Acts, chapter 1185, section 43, and other interested persons in performing the study.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: Up to 8

3. Livestock Odor Study Committee

Charge: Consider issues relating to odors associated with livestock. Study and make recommendations for additional state funding for research into cost effective management practices, facilities, equipment, and practices to mitigate odor from livestock production facilities, for an Iowa State University Veterinary Laboratory review of airborne disease research, and for research for utilizing manure and other livestock waste products as sources of nutrient recovery and renewable energy.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

4. State Prison System Study and Planning Study Committee

Charge: Consider the recommendations and proposals generated by the state prison system study and planning addressed by the Department and Board of Corrections pursuant to 2006 Iowa Acts, H.F. 2782, § 1.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

5. Early Care Best Practices Study Committee

Charge: Review best practices for Iowa's early care system of programs, services, support, or other assistance made available to a parent or other person who is involved with addressing the health and education needs of a child from birth through age five.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

6. Freedom of Information, Open Meetings, and Public Records Study Committee

Charge: Review and recommend changes to Iowa's open meetings and public records laws in Code chapters 21 and 22 and the State Archives and Records Act in Code chapter 305.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 3

7. Energy Efficiency Study Committee

Charge: Examine energy efficiency programs under the purview of the Iowa Utilities Board and consider other proposals for improving energy efficiency in the state.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

8. Home-based Child Care Study Committee

Charge: Consider options for increasing the number of home-based child care providers who are subject to registration. Not more than \$100,000 is authorized for the costs of research, pilot projects, and other testing of options.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

9. Skilled Worker Shortage Study Committee

Charge: Consider educational system improvements and other options to address shortages of skilled workers.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 2

10. Animal Feeding of Distillers Dried Grains Study Committee

Charge: Consider issues related to standards for the distillers dried grains that can be used in formulating rations for livestock.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House

Meeting Days: 1